

## ABSTRACT

An internal combustion engine variable compression ratio system is provided that includes a piston inner (5a), a piston outer (5b) that is fitted  
5 around the outer periphery of the piston inner (5a) so that it can slide only in the axial direction and is capable of moving between a low compression ratio position (L) and a high compression ratio position (H), a raising member (14) that can pivot around axes of the piston inner and outer (5a, 5b) between a non-raised position (A) and a raised position (B), and an actuator (20)  
10 connected to the member (14) and pivoting it to the non-raised position (A) or the raised position (B), in which piston outer high compression ratio position latching means (30b) is disposed between the piston inner (5a) and the piston outer (5b) and operates, when the piston outer (5b) has reached the high compression ratio position (H), so as to prevent relative axial movement of the  
15 piston inner (5a) and the piston outer (5b). It is thereby possible to provide a variable compression ratio system that enables the piston outer to be moved to the low compression ratio position and the high compression ratio position simply and reliably without rotating the piston outer.